JUL 2 8 2004 PRADEMA Applica

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/676,248

Confirmation No. :

1133

Applicant

Wilfried Andreas MAESTLE

RECEIVEL

 $\mathbf{Filed}$ 

September 29, 20003624

AUG 3 - 2004

TC/A.U. Examiner

3024

HOG 5 - ZUU4

Docket No.

: Kyle, Charles R.: 038659.49088US

GROUP 3500

Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: Machine-Implementable Project Finance Analysis and

Negotiating Tool Software, Method and System

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following provisional election and traverse is responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated June 29, 2004.

Restriction was required between the Group I set of claims 1-48 and 79 drawn to a generation of financial statements and various formal reports classified in class 705, subclass 30 and the Group II set of claims 49-78 and 80 drawn to loan processing, classified in claim 705, subclass 38.

Applicant traverses this requirement on the grounds that the generation of various financial statements and reports is required by, for example independent claim 49 which includes, among other things, "generating a loan disbursement time series and disbursement schedule independent of changes in capital expenditure and in exchange rates". Thus the invention of Group I does not have one of the requirements for distinctness between subcombinations for purposes of restriction/election practice.

Serial No. 09/676,248 Amendment Dated: July 29, 2004 Reply to Office Action June 29, 2004

Additionally, it is submitted that the search required for Group II, which is the provisionally elected Group, is inclusive of the search area for Group I. While it may be true, according to the statement of the restriction, the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, it is submitted that the reverse is not true.

In order to be responsive, Applications provisionally elect for prosecution the Group II set of claims drawn to a loan processing method of claims 49-78 and 80.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a full and thorough examination on the merits of this application containing claims 1-80.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent J. Sunderdick Registration No. 29,004

July 28, 2004

CROWELL & MORING LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300 Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500 Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

VJS:adb

#329754